

La Plata County Thrive! Living Wage Coalition  
Coalition and Steering Committee Pot Luck and Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday July 13, 2016  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall 419 San Juan Drive, Durango

Attendees: Kaitlin Fischer, Charlie Clements, Pat Rustad, Mike Rustad, Logan White, Darren White, Lynn Griffith, Maureen Maliszewski, Steve Krest, Greg Felsen, Mike Larson, Betty Schwartz-Bozeman, Peter Tregillus

**5:30 – 6:00**

**Intros and Updates: A SPECIAL WELCOME TO LOGAN WHITE, attending a Thrive! meeting for the first time.**

Bernie March in Durango July 24 – looking for speaker at rally following march. Laurie Roberts Darren will present at rally.

Secret Garden Concert Series benefits Thrive! August 10, 5-7:30. With Gleewood, a “Folk Rock” group from New Mexico. Mike volunteered to help. We will need more volunteers – call Maureen 970-903-0957 to volunteer, Please attend many of the concerts as the proceeds from the Series will be split between the 10 participating non profits, including Thrive!. Concerts are every Wed from 5 – 7:30 pm through Aug 31. For full details click on the poster at the top of our facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/ThriveLaPlata>

Minimum Wage Ballot Measure

- Petition signature project complete - 22 volunteers, over 1500 signatures
- Ballot education project Aug 21 – Nov 8. Applying for funding.

TERP

- New Coordinator: **Thank you, Brooke....Welcome Kaitlin**
- TERP applications to be reviewed tomorrow
- MM Continuing discussion with Michael Young, Director , Inclusive Economy Network, United for a Fair Economy re national employer recognition network

Fundraising – meeting tomorrow at Eolus re fall fundraiser there.

Voter Registration at Michael Fronti Concert 8/6/16 at Three Springs and at FLC 8/26/16, 12-2 PM at Clock Tower. Please call Darren if you can help with voter registration at these events – 970-903-3575.

Betty mentioned that Holly House might be a venue for Thrive! meetings.

**6:00 – 6:30 Pot Luck Dinner – showed video that Walmart uses in employee orientation to dissuade employees for union involvement: <https://youtube/ZD2Nt4LS5yg>.**

6:30 – 7:30 Brainstorming

- How can we help workers more? Maureen presented info about what Workers' Center do summarized from a paper developed by the Economic Policy Institute: <http://www.epi.org/publication/bp159/>. We agreed that this is a direction we may want to go and will continue the conversation. Potential resources were identified – Compañeros, possibly space at the Commons Building, Workforce Center, work training the Peter is involved with, a couple of labor lawyers who are new in town and attended the Towards Justice program in Durango in April.
- Third Annual Labor Day Picnic - (Suggestions here were re the picnic and also addressing the in general question of “how do we engage low wage workers?”. The picnic is fun and will help give Thrive! visibility, engage workers. Idea presented to invite political candidates, some thought we should not have candidates there, but maybe we should invite them to **listen** to workers. Music. How do we get low wage workers to attend – send them a letter (people on our contact list who identified as low wage workers), ask certified LW employers to bring employees and employers to give testimonials. Darren will include testimonials in email newsletters. Personal outreach. Expand Social Media – buy facebook ads. Online survey (anonymous) about working conditions (“do you get breaks?”, etc). People have to feel safe. In newsletter – employees are using our TERP list to find jobs – also helps employer find employees. Peter, Kaitlin, Steve, and Pat volunteered to help with the picnic. No one volunteered head up organizing the picnic. Mo will try to contact Amber who organized it last year. Suggested date, Sun. August 28. Bocce ball tournament.
- Spring Educational Program ideas - Cliff Effect. Day Care. Strong support for this topic. Mo will work on this.

7:30 – 8:00 Steering Committee

Discussion - Process for Thrive! to make decisions about supporting policies of other organizations (Colorado Center on Law and Policy).

Mo will contact CCLP to find out how much time we have to make a decision once they request our support. When an organization requests us to support a public policy, we will request a summary of the policy and more detailed background information. Coalition members will volunteer to review the information and give a 10-15 min presentation at the next Coalition Meeting. The Director will present the recommendation to support the issue, or not, to the Steering Committee for approval (which can be done by email) for final approval. Peter and Charlie volunteered to review the next policy issues that come up.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, Aug 8 Commons Building

Respectfully submitted 7/15/16 Maureen Maliszewski